



Dec. 10, 2018

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I write to you on behalf of the City of Davis Civic Arts Commission to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) and to disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC’s September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

Our understanding of the creation of our local PEG channels was to serve the public interest by enabling local expression, providing information for a wide range of community need and interests, and providing technology that supports those aims. For 30 years, the City of Davis has met these objectives, and they have strengthened our community in myriad ways. **Our Commission strongly believes that the ability of creative expression to enhance the quality of life for all individuals in a community is of paramount importance in maintaining an informed and engaged populace, and for this reason, we strongly support the role of our local public media access.**

The local papers in the area are understaffed and struggling; the commercial television outlets in Sacramento do not have capacity to cover what happens in our community. With our local channels, we are able to provide the community members with broadcasts of many meetings and important events. **We feel it is imperative to have an informed public for the health of our democracy, and our local channels are essential to that end. They additionally provide a crucial outlet for creative expression of all varieties, which we truly value.**

By defining “in-kind” support in an overly broad fashion, the rule making will shift the fair balance between local and state authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, which was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and hope your actions protect PEG channels in our community and others.

Sincerely,

Rachel Hartsough

Rachel Hartsough
Arts & Culture Manager / City Manager's Office

CC: The Honorable Michael O'Reilly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner